



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/075,438	02/14/2002	Joel J. Gummeson	399429	8724
30954	7590	08/11/2004		
LATHROP & GAGE LC 2345 GRAND AVENUE SUITE 2800 KANSAS CITY, MO 64108			EXAMINER MCCLENDON, SANZA L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1711	

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/075,438

Applicant(s)

GUMMESON, JOEL J.

Examiner

Sanza L McClendon

Art Unit

1711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 44-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 44-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on July 21, 2004 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. In response to the Amendment received on July 21, 2004, the examiner has carefully considered the amendments. The examiner acknowledges the cancellation of claims 1-43 and the addition of new claims 44-56. The claim rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph for claims 1-40 have been overcome by the amendment and has hereby been withdrawn for consideration.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see Amendment, filed July 25, 2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-43 under 35 USC 102(b) as outlined in previous office actions have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Tanabe et al (EP 1 036 831 A1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. Claims 44-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanabe et al (EP 1 036 831 A1).

Tanabe et al teaches photocurable ink compositions for ink-jet recording. Said ink comprises a colorant, a urethane oligomer, a reactive monomer, a photopolymerization initiator, and an aqueous solvent. Said urethane oligomers can comprise polyester, polybutadiene, polyether, and polyol backbones, which appear to anticipate claims 45-46 and 48 if a polyester backbone is selected. Said urethane can be found in amounts from 3 to 30% by weight. Said photopolymerization initiators can be selected from the list in paragraph 0028-0030 in amounts of at least 1.5 wt% as seen in the examples. This anticipates claim 44 and 56. Said colorant can be a pigment dispersible in water and/or a dye dispersible in water. This anticipates claim 55. Tanabe et al teaches said aqueous solvent comprises water and a water-soluble organic solvent (see paragraphs 0041 to 0046). Said water-soluble organic solvent comprises 0.05 to 5% of a low-boiling organic solvent (such as methanol, ethanol, n-butanol and the like), 5 to 40% of a high-boiling organic solvent, and 0.1 to 40% by weight of a sugar alcohol. Said water is added to balance out the ink composition to 100-wt%. These ranges appear to anticipate claims 52-53 and the low-boiling organic solvents, such as methanol and n-butanol appear to anticipate the alcohol derivatives in claim 54.

Tanabe et al teaches depositing said ink composition onto a recording medium followed by light irradiation to cure said ink composition. In addition, Tanabe et al teaches that the aqueous solvent can be removed by heating before polymerization to improve the efficiency of the polymerization reaction of the ink composition. This appears anticipates the water-fast image of claim 44 and the drying of the UV resin in claim 49. Per the examples, Tanabe et al teaches adding from 33% of an aqueous dispersion of a pigment, 34% of a water-dispersed urethane resin (this appears to anticipate claim 47), 1.5% of a monomer, 1.5% of a photoinitiator, and 30% water. The examiner deems that there is at least 49% by weight urethane resin in the composition

Art Unit: 1711

on a non-aqueous carrier bases, especially since Tanabe et al teaches dissolving/dispersing the resin in the monomer, adding the photoinitiator and other additive before dispersing in the water—see page 6, paragraph [0049]. Therefore claims 50-51 are deemed anticipated.

Claims 44-56 are anticipated by the reference.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sanza L McClendon whose telephone number is (571) 272-1074. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck can be reached on (571) 272-1078. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1700.



Sanza L McClendon

Examiner

Art Unit 1711

SMc

August 9, 2004

Application/Control Number: 10/075,438

Page 5

Art Unit: 1711